

**Whitney, Rob**

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**From:** Luke, Tim  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 5:46 PM  
**To:** Preston Marcroft  
**Cc:** Whitney, Rob; Hoekema, David; Cefalo, James; Weaver, Mathew; Spackman, Gary  
**Subject:** RE: WD 34 Futile Call Request

Preston,

This email confirms IDWR's receipt of your request for a futile call determination on the Big Lost River. The Department has reviewed data documenting a break in the river between the Beck Diversion and the Moore Canal since the morning of August 12, 2022. The Department has confirmed from available data that BLRID has been holding the reservoir flat since August 11. Reservoir releases since this time has been limited to inflows (or natural flow) only. We understand that the reduction in reservoir releases is due to a lack of storage water demand, including very little demand in the lower valley. It appears that the natural flow in the river is not adequate to carry water to the Moore Canal.

Based on the information you provided, data available to us, and the support by advisory committee members, the Department concludes that a futile call on the river is currently justified. Upon this determination and as per our discussion with you this afternoon, you may deliver water to more junior priority rights on the river between Mackay Reservoir and the Beck Ditch. We understand from you that you will immediately call on all the 1884 decreed priority rights in that reach. Please note that this determination does not prevent users on the Moore Canal or other lower valley ditches to call for and receive delivery of storage and decreed rights during the remainder of this irrigation season. We understand that some users in the lower valley may still have significant storage balances and may request delivery of both storage and any deliverable decreed rights over the coming days. Please also note that decreed priorities may need to be adjusted if the requested water supply is adequate to connect the river again and can be put to beneficial use. This guidance is consistent with last year's futile call approval in which we directed the watermaster "to distribute surface water flows of the Big Lost River in the reach from Mackay Dam to the Beck Diversion, unless it is subsequently determined that delivery of the senior water rights at the Moore Diversion is no longer futile."

Please contact me, Rob Whitney, or David Hoekema if you any questions or need assistance regarding this matter. Thank you for documenting the flow conditions on the river and submitting a formal request.  
Regards,

*Tim Luke*  
*Idaho Department of Water Resources*  
*Water Compliance Bureau Chief*  
[tim.luke@idwr.idaho.gov](mailto:tim.luke@idwr.idaho.gov) | 208-287-4959

**From:** Luke, Tim  
**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 1:17 PM  
**To:** Preston Marcroft <presmarc@mackayschools.org>  
**Cc:** Whitney, Rob <Rob.Whitney@idwr.idaho.gov>; Hoekema, David <David.Hoekema@idwr.idaho.gov>; Cefalo, James <James.Cefalo@idwr.idaho.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: WD 34 Futile Call Request

Preston,

Your email did not address any current requests for storage water from users in the lower valley. I spoke this morning with one of the users (Kieth Waddoups) this morning who also called me on Friday regarding their intent to call for storage. Keith said several users on the Moore, including himself, placed orders for delivery of storage with BLRID on Friday. You said you were going to check with BLRID after we spoke this morning. What did they say about the storage delivery requests/orders? IDWR would like to know about the storage water requests/orders before addressing this futile call request.

Tim

**From:** Preston Marcroft <[presmarc@mackayschools.org](mailto:presmarc@mackayschools.org)>

**Sent:** Monday, August 15, 2022 1:03 PM

**To:** Luke, Tim <[Tim.Luke@idwr.idaho.gov](mailto:Tim.Luke@idwr.idaho.gov)>; Whitney, Rob <[Rob.Whitney@idwr.idaho.gov](mailto:Rob.Whitney@idwr.idaho.gov)>;

[David.Hokema@idwr.idaho.gov](mailto:David.Hokema@idwr.idaho.gov)

**Subject:** WD 34 Futile Call Request

Tim.

I would like to request that IDWR, please make a futile call for the delivery of water to the Moore Diversion based on the lack of beneficial use of the decreed water. Currently WD34 is attempting to deliver the 8-10-1883's to the Moore Canal starting on 8-12-2022. I called Dave Hokeman and told him that there was no water making it to the Moore Diversion. so we agreed to curtail all of the 1884 decrees in attempt to dilver the 8-10-1883 decree to the Moore Diverson. All of the 1884 decrees where turned off by 11:30 that day. There is no storage waterbeing delivered to any canal. as of this mourning there is no water making it to the Moore Diversion. This makes the river shrink 100%. if the futile call is determined the last point of delivery of water on the Big Lost River would be be moved up to the Beck Canal Heading which would allow beneficial use again. I have been in contact with Vernon Roche Chairman of advisory borad and 5 of the 9 members support this. I also talked to the chairman of Big Lost River Irrigation Distric and they approve WD"34 request.

Please review the supporting information and if youhave any questions or need any additional information please let me know.

Thank You

Preston Marcroft

WD34

Watermaster

8-13-2021

Sharp; 0 cfs

Swauger; 6.4 ( well water)

Burnett; 0 cfs

Darlington; 11.62 ( well water)

Beck; 0 cfs

Moore; o cfs

Inflow; 208 cfs

Release; 173

8-14-2022

Sharp; 0 cfs

Swauger; 6.6 cfs ( well water)

Burnett; 0 cfs

Darlington 11.62 cfs ( well water)

Beck; 0 cfs  
Moore; 0 cfs  
Inflow; 187 cfs    Release; 192

8-15-2022  
Sharp; 0 cfs  
Swauger; 6.6 cfs ( well water)  
Burnett; 0 cfs  
Darlington; 11.62 ( well water)  
Beck; 0 cfs  
Moore; 0 cfs  
Inflow; 165 cfs  
Release; 195 cfs